



The Blue Beret

Issued by the Public Information Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

No. 62
Volume Twelve

28th January 1976

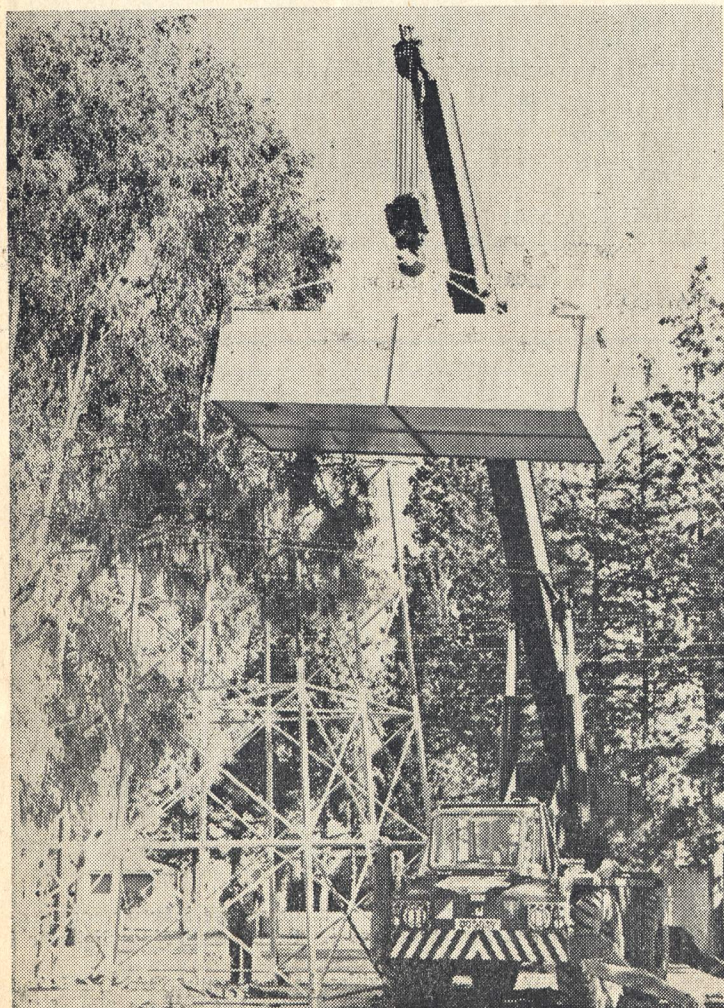
COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES NEAR EAST VISITS UNFICYP

On 15 January Air Marshal Sir John Aiken, KCB paid a farewell visit to the Force. During this visit he was able to see the whole of the Demilitarised Zone and be briefed by each of the Sector Commanders. Air Marshal Aiken leaves Cyprus to become a member of the Air Force Board in London. He will be succeeded by Air Vice Marshal R Austen-Smith, CB, DFC.

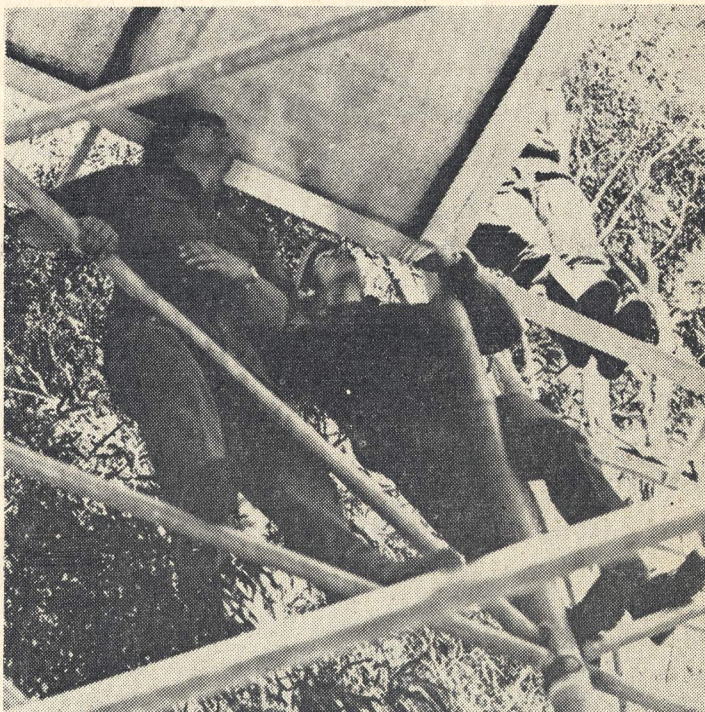
CBFNE is seen above, with the Chief of Staff, Brigadier General C.E. Beattie, CMM, CD, being briefed by Lieutenant Colonel A.O. Lopmeri.



NEW WATER TOWER FOR XEROS



Cpl Brassington, lifts the 1500 gallon tank in a very restricted area.



Sgt Larsen, DANCON Engineers and WO 2 Clifton, ensure proper alignment of the tank.

The Danish engineers recently received some help from the Royal Engineers with the building of a new water tower at Xeros Camp.

Cranes supplied by Sovereign Base Area operated by the men of BRITCON engineers built a 30 foot tower and then put two 1500 gallon water tanks on top of it.

The Danish engineers, led by Sergeant V Larsen, worked with the British sappers. They will now complete the job by doing all the plumbing required to provide the camp with a constant supply of water.

DANCON NEWS



På grund af visse indtrufne omstændigheder måtte den af velfærdstjenesten arrangerede tur til Israel starte pr. helikopter fra Xeros-lejren.

The welfare tour to Israel started by helicopter from the Xeros camp.



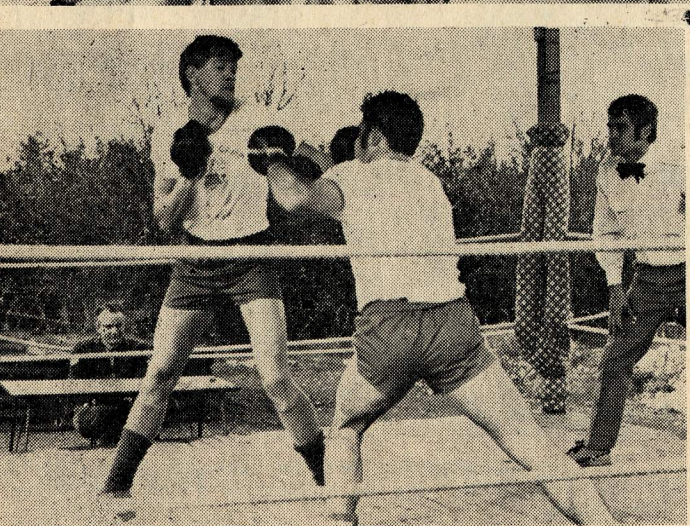
15 JAN aflagde den britiske Air Marshal Sir John Aiken besøg på OP NIKOLAOS for at blive orienteret om situationen i DANCON's område. Fra v. see: OL T.B. Pilgaard, Sir John Aiken, MAJ L.S. Arentz og MAJ O. Blichert-Hansen.

On the 15th January Air Marshal Sir John Aiken visited Sector One, and at OP NIKOLAOS he was briefed about the situation in the area.

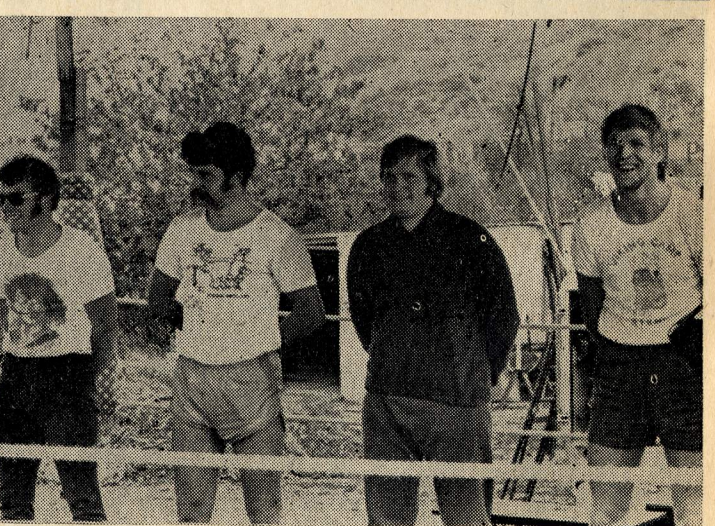


NU ITO, MAJ N.A.G. Mannerup har fra den 10 JAN afløst MAJ F. Buhl på posten som ITO ved DANCON.

On 10th January Maj Mannerup took over as Supply Officer DANCON.



Lørdag d. 17 lev boksefinalerne afviklet i C-KMP ved et særdeles velarrangeret stævne med et stort og medlevende publikum. På billedet t.v. har KS T.F. Hansen "fyret" sin lige venstre af mod LT B.B. Haugård. T.h. ses de fire glade vindere. Fra v. KS H.B. Overgaard, KP T.O. Hansen, KS J.E. Petersen og KS T.F. Hansen. Tillykke.



Boksekampene er kun et enkelt af de mange irdætsarrangementer der er mulighed for at deltage i. Se de mange muligheder i idrætsmeddelelserne.

Among many sporting activities held recently DANCON had a boxing competition on January 17. To the left you see two of the matches, and on the right the happy winners of the four classes.

A FLYING VIP

The Swedish Contingent in Sector Six were visited by Air Marshal Sir John Aiken, KCB.

SWEDCON NEWS

While he has been in Cyprus, Sir John has been the Administ-

rator of the Sovereign Base Areas and Commander of the British Forces in the Near East.

Air Marshall Sir John Aiken was taken to one of the UN observations posts in the Dhe-rinia area. He was briefed there about the situation in Sector Six by the Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel A Rolff.



Air Marshall Sir John Aiken with Major Yman of Swedcon and Colonel Chiswell, the Deputy Chief of Staff of UNFICYP.

Det kommer säkert att bli fler tillfällen att få träna samverkan med helikoptrar för den som inte kunde vara mer förra gången. Målet är att så gott som alla ska ha fått chansen att känna på snabba helikopterförflyttningar med embarkering i flygande fläng och avstigning medan helikoptern fortfarande hänger i luften.

Övningen ingår i ett större program som syftar till att förbereda de olika UNFICYP - kontingenterna för snabba insatser och förflyttningar där helikoptrarna är de snabbaste och smidigaste transportmedlen. De som var med i de första övningarna kan intyga effektiviteten.

Att det talades flyg och flygoperationer när generalen Sir John Aiken besökte SWEDCON i mitten på januari, vågar vi nog hålla en slant på. General Aiken avgår som chef för Englands medelhavskommando med säte i Episkopi och därmed också för



NO FEAR OF FLYING

The sound of helicopters is heard very frequently over Carl Gustav Camp at Famagusta.

UN soldiers have to be able to move from one part of the Island to another quickly by helicopters.

As a result helicopter training is a regular feature of the Swedish Battalion's training programme. This training take the form of a briefing by the crewman, a short flight and then a descent by rope or normal exit onto the ground.

On the first flight the pilot circles round so that everyone can see their camp looking rather unfamiliar from above. After this flight the sections progress learning to embark and disembark quickly, when the helicopter is on the ground; and then to descend by rope while it hovers over the landing-point.

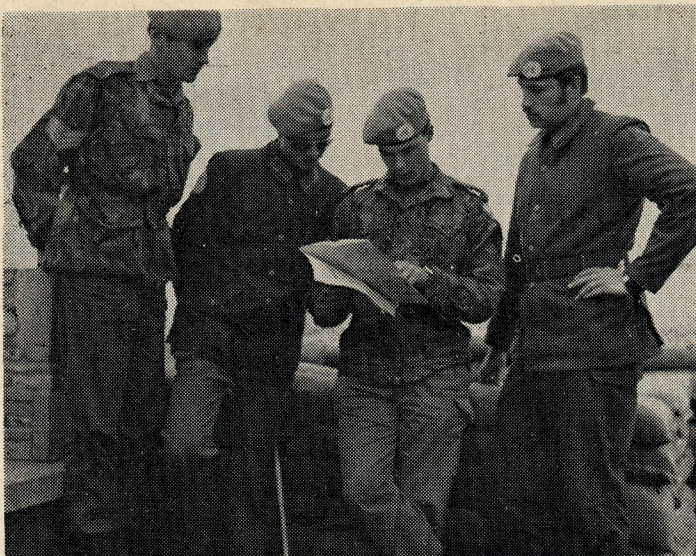
This is popular training for a serious purpose. By the time the Battalion returns to Sweden at the end of its tour everyone will be confident to operate with helicopters.



den sk British Sovereign Base Area på Cypren. Det kommer

säkert att bli fler militära och andra VIP:s som kommer att be-

söka Sektor Six innan 59:an reser hem i april.



EXCHANGE VISIT

Recently two Welsh Guardsmen were able to spend a fortnight with the Swedish Battalion in Famagusta, while two Swedish soldiers visited the Welsh Guards in St. David's Camp. In the picture on the left Privates Anderson and Strand are being briefed at the Avlona OP by Lieutenant J. H. Sayers and Sergeant Samuels.



The Operations Branch Chief Clerk WO 1 J. B. Sykes RAOC recently handed over to WO 2 C.F. Charlesworth RAOC, and returned to England and retirement. He is leaving the Army to become the manager of a caravan site at Robin Hoods Bay, near Scarborough. WO 2 Charlesworth has been posted to the Force from 1 British Corps in Germany.



BRITCON NEWS

AIRBORNE OPs

UN helicopters and their crews are a familiar sight to all who serve in UNFICYP. The four Whirlwind Mark 10 helicopters of B Flight 84 Squadron RAF based at Nicosia, provide a continuous standby service to the Force for casualty evacuation — weather permitting a helicopter should be over a casualty within an hour!

Flight Lieutenant John Meehan and his six pilots and crewmen spend 2½ to 3 years with UNFICYP and so get to know the Contingents and the Island well. In addition to the priority task of casualty evacuation, they fly

many hours resupplying observation posts and carrying passengers. Among the more unusual tasks given to them recently has been the lifting of materials for observation posts into position, and the dismantling of the main radio mast in Polis Camp. This latter task was done when the UN Signal Troop found that the mast couldn't be taken down in the usual way.

Most of the OP resupply tasks are in Sector One, where some 13 OP's receive all their supplies by helicopter. This Christmas the Whirlwinds flew in Christmas decorations as well as turkey lunches.

FORCE COMMANDER ON PATROL



Last week the Force Commander visited the Force Reserve and toured part of the Blue Corridor route. Lieutenant General D Prem Chand, PVSM, travelled in one of the Force Reserve ferrets and was escorted by 5 Troop.

While 5 Troop were doing this the 1st Troop were patrolling another part of the Blue Corridor in Sector Four. They were photographed (right) with a Canadian Lynx.

WECHSEL AN DER SPITZE DES UNAB 8

Am Samstag, den 17. Jänner, trat das ganze Bataillon — soweit nur abkömmlich — zu einer morgendlichen Flaggenparade an. Nach 2 Jahren der Führung des Bataillons durch Obst RIEGER schlug die Stunde der Kommandöbergabe, und selbst strömender Regen konnte nur eine Verschiebung um 15 Minuten bewirken. Dann besann sich der Wettergott auf den Dienstplan und lieferte wenn auch kein "Kaiserwetter", so doch eine kleine Aufhellung und die Zeremonie konnte beginnen.

Nach einer kurzen Ansprache, mit der sich Obst RIEGER vom Bataillon verabschiedete, trat der Feldzeichentrupp vor: Aus der Hand seines Vorgängers übernahm nun Obstdt FRITZ die österreichische Standarte und damit symbolisch das Kommando über das Österreichische UN-Kontingent.

Und für alle, die es noch nicht wissen: Obstdt FRITZ, in Österreich Kommandant des JgB 17 und seit Oktober letzten Jahres "2iC", ist kein "Newcomer" als Bataillonskommandant in ZYPERN: Er führte das UNAB bereits einmal, nämlich von Oktober 1973 bis Jänner 1974.

On 17 January a parade was held in Camp Duke Leopold V, on which Lt Col W. Fritz took over the command of the Austrian Contingent from Col F. Rieger. After two years in command of the battalion Col Rieger's tour of duty lasted a quarter of an hour longer than



planned because heavy rain delayed the beginning of the Hand-over Ceremony.

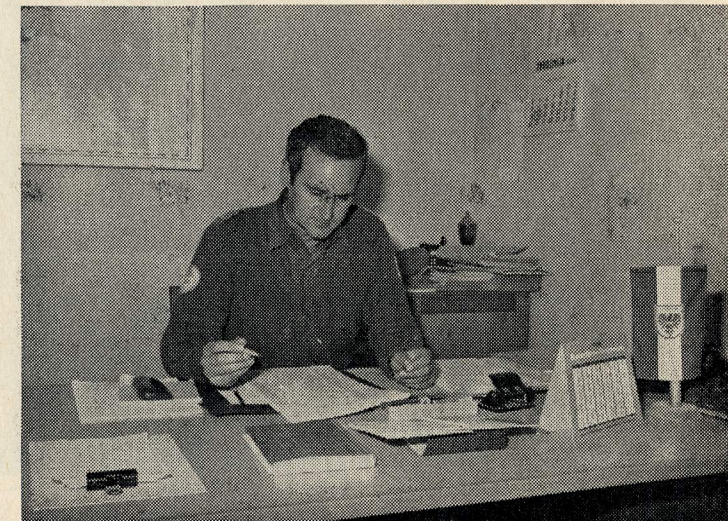
oben: Obst RIEGER übergibt Standarte und Kommando an Obstdt FRITZ.

above: Col F. Rieger is seen handing over the Austrian flag to his successor Lt Col W. Fritz.

HOHER BESUCH BEIM AUSCON

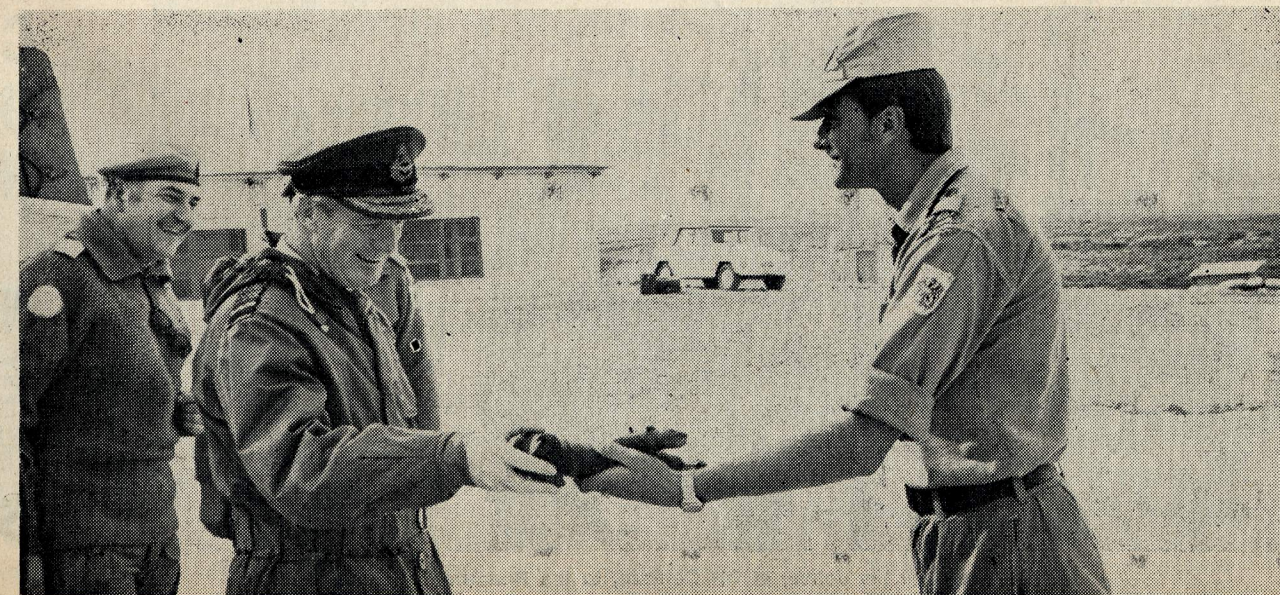
VIP — Atmosphäre herrschte am 15. Jänner am OP A 21. Der Kommandant der Britischen Streitkräfte NAHOST, Luftmarschal Sir John AIKEN, besuchte die entmilitarisierte Zone und ließ sich von Obst RIEGER in die Lage einweisen. Die äußerst knapp bemessene Besuchszeit reichte StWm KRASSER gerade noch, den englischen Gast mit österreichischer Volkskunst vertraut zu machen: Er überreichte ihm als Geschenk eine Wurzelschnitzerei die noch aus der Produktion von "Wurzelsepp" ObWm ARNETZ stammte.

On 15 January, the Commander-in-Chief of British Forces NEAR EAST, Air Marshal Sir John Aiken, KCB, visited Sector Five. On arrival he was briefed by Colonel F. Rieger. Afterwards there was enough time left to show the Air Marshal some Austrian folk art "Made in Cyprus" — The OP — Cdr SSgt Krasser presented a wood carving to our visitor. This carving was done by SSgt Krasser's predecessor Sgt Arnetz, who was well known within AUSCON for his artistic abilities.



Der neue Kommandant, Obstdt Fritz, an seinem Schreibtisch. The New Contingent Commander, Lt Col Fritz — a new face, but not a "newcomer" to UNFICYP. He has served as 2iC in 1973, and commanded the battalion from October 1973 to January 1974, when he returned to Austria to command a battalion there.

AUSCON NEWS



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VISITS 3 PPCLI

The Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, the Honourable Walter S. Owen and Mrs. Owen visited 3 PPCLI from 14 January — 21 January. British Columbia, with Victoria as its capital, is Canada's most western province. It is located on the shores of the Pacific Ocean 8,000 miles from Cyprus. During the Lieutenant Governor's tour he visited the UN Demilitarised Zone in Sector 4, Kyrenia and Famagusta, as well as the southern part of Cyprus. Their visit was most welcome to the Patricia's whose Regimental home is in Victoria.



The Honourable Walter S. Owen inspects the 3 PPCLI, Guard of Honour on his arrival in Cyprus.



(l. to r.) Brig. Gen. Beatie, Dr Perez de Cuellar, the Honourable Walter S. Owen.



(l. to r.) Lt. Gen. Prem Chand and the Lieutenant Governor at a reception in his honour.



Pte Kirby explains his duties, at OP Cornaro, to the Honourable Walter S. Owen.

C
A
N
C
O
N

N
E
W
S

Suomalaiskotkat ovat jo ehtineet kotiutua uuteen pesäänsä Finneagles' Campiin. Aluksi tietysti muodon vuoksi urputettiin ja muisteltiin haikeina entisiä Finn-campin päiviä. Nyt on kuitenkin uusi leiri alkanut jo tuntua kodilta.

Finneaglesia voi hienosti kutsua pataljoonan reservijoukkueiden koulutuskeskukseksi. Siellä on kaksi reservijoukkuetta kerrallaan pari viikkoa koulutuksessa kuuden OP -viikon jälkeen. Pidetään sulkeisia, opetellaan viestivälineiden käyttöä, pidetään oppitunteja ja Nyrkin toimintaharjoituksia sekä kunnostellaan campia muun puuhan lomassa.

Puolella joukosta on kaksi iltaa peräkkäin vapaata toisen puolen ollessa Nyrkissä ja heitellessä kaikki pakolliset pykälät. Asukkaita on noin 110, joista viitisenkymmentä on kaksi viikkoa kerrallaan viihtyviä kiertolaisia. Loput ovat pysyvää väkeä, jotka huolehtivat huolto — yms tohuista.

Finneagles' camp on ulkoapäin tyypillinen enkkuleiri. Ennen suomalaisten muuttoja leiri oli ehtinyt olla tyhjiällä ja rapistua melkoisesti. Hallitus kustansi peruskorjaukset ja Fincon on pannut kuntoon saunan, messit ja keittiön. Päähuomio on kiinnitetty ympäristön kunnostukseen. On rahdattu multaa, kylvetty ruohoa, istutettu kukkia ja pensaita, kärähty sepeliä. Asuintilojen viihtyvyydessä on vielä toivomisen varaa, mutta niitäkin pyritään vielä ehostamaan.

Jääkärisauna on saamassa koristukseen ison ja hienon takan. Upseerimessin takka on jo kokeiltu ja hyväksi havaittu. Varsinainen helmi on kuitenkin hirsirakenteinen päällystösäuna. Se on niin kaunis ja viihtyisä että asukkaat pelkäävät siitä tulevan pataljoonan uusi läyhistelupaikka. Upseerimessin sisustuksesta on vastannut jääk Reijo Yrjölä, joka on paremmin tunnettu SUPASE-TIN taiteilijana. Takan muurasi lomatöinään jo Suomeen lähtenyt ylik Jouko Nietula. Jääkärimessin on sattuvasti ja leikkimielisesti ristitty Haukkabaariksi, vaikka haukkoja ei tiettävästi suomalaiskotkien leirissä pesikään.

SUOMALAISKOTKIEKIN PESÄPAIKKA



Näkymä Finneaglesin vesitornista. Kuva on otettu juuri ennen kuin torniin kiipeämisen ehdittiin ankarasti kieltää.

ENGLISH SUMMARY

The Finns have got used to Finneagles Camp, their new company base near HQ UNFICYP. The Camp, previously called Gleneagles Camp had its name changed when the Finns moved in. The repair work has been completed, and the camp is now quite comfortable. During the repair work two saunas were built, and these now are often almost too crowded. When they were opened Lt Col Lopmeri took three of the sector commanders to see them, as shown on the left.

The general area of the camp is seen above, as photographed from the top of the water tower.

Below:

The rotation of FINCON is already partly in process. New faces pictured in the Officers' Mess are from left to right: DO, Lt Tero Sallamo, Legal Officer, Capt Pekka Cleve and Chaplain Leo Karkia. The new ADC to Force Commander, Capt Jyrki Ratia (below on the right) has already been on the Island for three weeks. This is his second posting in Cyprus. On the previous occasion he was here for eighteen months.



Kontingenttien komentajia Finneaglesin uuden saunan veranalla. Herrat komentavat vasemmalta lukien Swedconia, Ausconia, Finconia ja Danconia.

FINCON NEWS

Uusia Kasvoja Finconissa-New Faces in Fincon



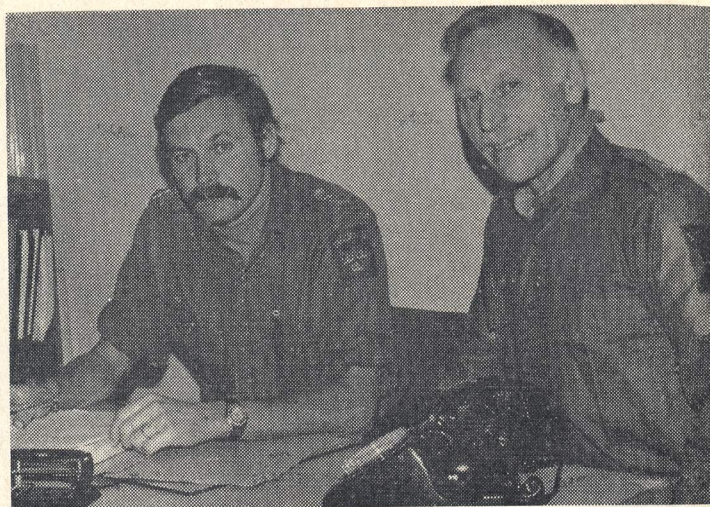
Uusia miehiä Cornerin pöydän äärellä. Vasemmalta tilanpäivystäjä 1 tn Tero Sallamo, uusi lain miekka kapt Pekka Cleve ja Matti — papin manttelinperiä Leo Karkia.

Force Commanderin uusi adjutantti on meikkäläisiä kapteenia, Jyrki Ratia nimeltään.

RELIEF TIME AT HQ UNFICYP



After being the Force Commanders ADC for over a year, Captain Benny Carlsson is seen welcoming his relief at Headquarters UNFICYP last week. His relief is Captain Jyrki Ratia. Captain Ratia has previously served with FINCON successively as Supply Officer, Ops Duty Officer and Adjutant. Captain Carlsson returns to Sweden to command a Signal Recruit Training Squadron.



Major Nils Lago-Lengquist is seen explaining his job to his relief Major Lennart Rapp. Major Lago-Lengquist has been in the Headquarters as the Staff Officer responsible for the maintenance of equipment for the past year. He leaves to rejoin his previous Regiment as the Logistics Officer. Major Rapp has come to UNFICYP from an Ordnance Regiment where he was the Quartermaster.

SPORTS NEWS



Skiing is a popular sport and many members of the Force this year have already found their way to Sun Valley at Troodos. Last week Driver Keith Dawson of the Force Transport Squadron went to learn how to ski, and found it wasn't so difficult after all.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS

Week ending 17th Jan 76	10
Same period last year	10
Total for the year	10
Total for the same period	10
Last year	

LESSON OF THE MONTH

Drive Dangerously and Die
Drive Safely and SURVIVE.



In the hockey photograph above Major Hughes-Wilson is seen going into a tackle while (from left to right) Cpl Gunfield, WO I Hopewell, S/Sgt Owsley and Signalmen Reece await results. In the bottom picture Sgt White and Trooper Harrison are seen challenging each other for the ball.

